

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

JOHN BEAL, Editor and Proprietor.

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Established in 1899. Audrain County's Favorite Newspaper.



RETRENCHMENT and REFORM.

John T. Barker, candidate for Governor, has the following plank in his platform, containing timely suggestions: The most rigid economy should be practiced in the business affairs of the state. All forms of petty graft should be abolished; useless clerks should be done away with; no man should be appointed to position solely on account of kinship or political influence. Secrecy should have no place in the government of Missouri, the people should at all times know exactly how all departments are conducted. A system has grown up in the Legislature of expending one-half million dollars each year. Much of this is unnecessary. Economy should be practiced in that body and two hundred thousand dollars is sufficient. Thus three hundred thousand dollars can be saved to the people. We are expending over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year for printing and in many instances reports of different departments are printed with beautiful pictures and elegantly bound. Many of them can be dispensed with and this alone will save one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Why cannot the Legislature meet once in four years with the power of the Governor to call an extra session if necessary? A constitutional amendment can make this possible and I will advocate the same, thus saving the state five hundred thousand dollars and permitting the people to try the new laws and see how they like them.

GOING AFTER THE PACKERS.

The Missouri Cattle, Swine & Sheep Feeders' association will send Judge Wm. H. Wallace, of Kansas City, and Dr. A. W. Nelson of Buncheon, Mo., to Washington. They will urge the house judiciary committee to institute a sweeping investigation of the so-called beef trust. This decision was reached by the executive committee meeting at Hotel Muehlebach. Nelson, pres. of the association, and Judge Wallace will co-operate with Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas feeders who also will likely attend. This committee makes charges that the packers control the price of fat cattle at all the great markets. "Farmers buy feeders in our markets, fatten them and are compelled to sell them to the packers at ruinous prices," so declares the resolution. "In consequence hundreds of farmers and feeders in the great agricultural and feeding districts have entirely broken up."

A wise man will hear and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsel.—Prov. 1:15.

We like the looks of W. D. Vandiver as a candidate for Governor. But there are others, the Message is not yet fully committing itself.

The Bank of Rush Hill declares a dividend of 16 per cent. This fine showing is proof that the bank has a good patronage and is well managed.

Did it ever occur to you that the fellow so anxious for war never, or hardly ever, says "I'm willing to enter the army in the lowest ranks, and remain there for the defense of home and country?"

Over in Kirksville the churches all go in together and run a page advertisement each Thursday in the newspapers. It makes the preacher feel good; it makes the congregation feel better and it makes the newspaper man feel fine. Why not in Mexico?

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat has taken a poll of certain Democratic voters thruout the State as to whom they favor for Governor, and the majority of them say Roach. Yes, that's just the way the G.—D. wants it. Roach would be the easiest fellow for the Republicans to beat.

Z. T. Bondurant, south of Vandalia, held a public sale yesterday and, according to the Vandalia Mail, is to move back to Laddonia to live. He will engage in the real estate business with H. G. Sipple at Laddonia. The Message is glad to have him and his good wife move back toward the county seat.

Editor Davis of the Silver Creek Nebraska Sand thus shows his study of human nature: "A man who squeezes a dollar never squeezes his wife," and opines further that in looking over his subscription list it is his belief that there are quite a few good women in his community who are being sadly neglected.

Five hundred, fifty-four out of every 1000 inhabitants of Switzerland, or 55 per cent., says Merle Crowell in the February Am. Magazine, "have savings-bank accounts, according to latest available figures; in our country, 99 out of every 1,000 or less than ten per cent, have made similar provision for the future. The average savings per capita in Switzerland are \$47.03; in America, \$4.84."

President Wilson has offered the post as ambassador to Russia to D. R. Francis of Missouri. Francis is an able business man and is thoroughly acquainted with diplomacy—and that's what they say it takes in such a position. His many Missouri friends hope he may see his way clear to accept the offer. It is one of the most important appointments the President controls.

A Visit to The High School.  
By Rev. O. Olin Green.

Our public schools constitute one of the greatest assets of the nation. There are between seventeen and eighteen millions of boys and girls attending the public schools of this country. Within a few short years the affairs of the nation will be in the hands of these young people. Will they be prepared to do it as well as we are doing it? Some are always doubtful about "the rising generation." We have nothing to fear so long as we guard, support, and nourish our public schools properly. Our recent visit to the McMillan High School convinces us that the school work is on the up-grade. It is better than when we went to school or even when we taught school ourselves. Methods, facilities, equipment, management all have improved. Teaching has improved because teachers have improved.

It was our privilege and joy to talk to the students of the High School for a half hour recently. They were attentive, responsive, and appreciative. We have never seen a finer body of young people. What a privilege is theirs! Their student government is a marvel. We have never seen anything like it. It tends not only toward the development of character but also the fostering of a true community spirit as well as the spirit of loyalty. Our town is to be congratulated on having such a school as the McMillan High School.

W. S. Barbee cries public sales in east end of county. Barbee is a useful fellow any place you put him.

EAST END NOTES.

Vandalia, Mo., Feb. 21.—Mrs. Sobolewski of Vandalia has been visiting her father, J. T. Jerman, and family recently.

Orlin Decker of Iowa is visiting relatives in this locality.

Mrs. Lamme of Curryville has been the guest of Mrs. Naysmith and Mrs. Geller.

Mrs. A. G. Butts is with her daughter, Mrs. Copenhagen, of St. Louis, who is in ill health.

Leslie Wright has moved to the Wm. Saxe farm.

Miss Celia Tipton returned recently from an extended visit to relatives in Iowa.

Zack Bondurant sold to Vandalia buyers last week 400 bushels of wheat at \$1.20, and 450 bushels of oats @ 45 cents.

Wm. Jeffries and Brack Roberts with their families will soon move to Idaho Falls, Idaho, to reside. We are sorry to lose these good people from our county.

Jacob Saxe of Vandalia is in quite feeble health at the home of his brother, George Saxe.

Z. T. Bondurant will have a public sale of live stock and farming implements Feb. 23 and will move to Laddonia.

Dave Jeffries held a public sale the 17th inst. and will move to Vandalia.

Louis Kohl sold a nice draft filly to Grover Webber for \$135.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Barbee under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. entertained in their usual charming manner at their beautiful country home Thursday evening, Feb. 17, in honor of Mrs. Wm. Jeffries, who will move to Idaho, Mr. and Mrs. Zack Bondurant, who will move to Laddonia. A large crowd of friends and neighbors were present and were entertained by a program of music, vocal and instrumental, and a number of readings. Dainty refreshments, such as the Cuisse W. C. T. U. ladies are so capable of preparing, were served. Everyone present enjoyed the occasion splendidly and at a late hour departed for their homes wishing the honor guests long life and happiness and prosperity in their new homes.

THE WORTH OF LOYALTY.

Bowling Green Times thus says:

A farm located near Mexico, Mo., was sold last week—90 acres, for \$233 1-3 per acre. What made it sell so high? The land is not as good as can be found around other cities of the same class. Wasn't it the fact that Mexico is a good town? With people loyal to every interest of the community? Suppose, through the drain of the mail order house, Mexico had been an old dilapidated looking town, would the land have brought one-half above mentioned? This is not idle talk. Land near a good prosperous town is more valuable because of the loyalty of the people. The property owner can not afford to kill his home town.

Home-Made Bibles.

Every Christian home may carry on the work of making new Bibles or portions of Scripture, even though there is no printing press in the house. Bible memorizing is this secret process, and it opens a treasure house of undiscovered secrets to those who with persistent courage carry out the plan day by day. Literally millions of Testaments and Gospels have been distributed to the soldiers in Europe. But some of the soldiers carried Scriptures with them that did not take up as much room as the smallest pocket Testament, and that could not wear out. Chaplains tell how groups of soldiers who had given up any profession of religion meet together voluntarily, to sing and to repeat Bible promises that had been stored in the memory in childhood. Make Bible memorizing a definite part of your plans for 1916 in home and school. S. S. Times.

Mrs. J. W. Dry, Mrs. Bradford Sappington, Mrs. Harry Atchison, Mrs. W. H. Ritchie and Mrs. Elizabeth Bush were among those from Mexico who attended the funeral of Dr. W. A. McAllister at Centralla Saturday.

MEXICO ACTIVITIES.

Mrs. E. R. Azdell of this city visited relatives in Laddonia last week.

O. E. Edson of Rush was brought to the Mexico Hospital last week for treatment.

Mrs. Ben Thorp underwent an operation for kidney trouble at the Hospital last week.

Forty-five new names have been added to the roster of the Mexico Commercial Club membership lately. Not many of them are farmers—they're coming later.

J. C. DeLaporte of Laddonia visited his daughter in Mexico last week, Mrs. W. Clyde Johnson.

Mrs. Dan Cauthorn is visiting friends in Ottawa, Kansas.

Mrs. J. H. Sallee has been quite ill. Mrs. Harry Gordon of New York, her daughter, came last week to be at her bedside.

Jerry Corbin was arrested in Moberly last week on the charge of breaking into a C. & A. car at Francis and helping himself to merchandise which did not belong to him. He was brought to Mexico and lodged in jail.

Kent & Son are selling some of the best cider you ever tasted. Tom Hook says it is all right—and many more of us.

Frank James says he has served as school director 25 years and has been road overseer 10 years. Ask him how he gets along since he was elected president of a telephone company.

Judge John C. Cleaver of Ralls county was here last week to see his friend, John Abhay. Mr. Cleaver was carrying a concealed weapon, a real shooting iron, but it wouldn't shoot, tho it used to 75 or 100 years ago, no doubt. It was a flint lock pistol. And the old flint was in place to do the work. The barrel was made of brass, shaped like a cannon. The stock was rotted away. But the brass and iron and steel were all fairly well preserved. The pistol was picked up in a blackberry patch two years ago on Mr. Biggs' farm in Ralls county. The gun was settled in the ground, the end of the barrel sticking out. How did it get there? Who lost it and when? On either side of the barrel was engraved a coat of arms, which showed out as plainly as could be, but nobody in Mexico could make it out or translate it, not even J. F. Llewellyn or L. Roy Ferris.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

To The Republicans of Audrain County.

Pursuant to the action of the Republican Central Committee of Audrain County, Missouri, a mass convention of the Republicans of Audrain County is hereby called to meet at Mexico, Missouri, in the Circuit Court Room, Saturday, February 26th, 1916, at 2:30 p. m. to select six delegates and six alternates to the Republican State Conventions of the Ninth District of Missouri, and to make such declaration of party principles and to transact such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

Garrett Barnes, Secretary.

Republican Central Committee of Audrain County.

MRS. BERTELS DEAD.

Mrs. Clara Bertels of Martinsburg, 70 years of age, came to Mexico Thursday to make final settlement of her husband's estate, the late Stephen Bertels. Mrs. Bertels had occasion to go to the Mutual Telephone Co's office and just as she reached the top of the stairs she fell and expired, dying, it is presumed, from heart failure.

Mrs. Bertels is survived by the following children: Miss Theresa, of this city, a trained nurse; Misses Fannie and Christine; Mrs. John Fennwald of Martinsburg; Miss Verona, at Oldenburg, Indiana.

Mrs. Bertels was a devoted member of the Catholic and a splendid woman.



COME IN

We loan Money on Real Estate, any amount, at as low a rate as you can obtain anywhere.

We can satisfy you in every detail.

Ricketts & Whitney  
The Abstractors

Mexico, Mo.  
Both Phones.

POLLY and BUSTER COME HOME.

Polly, the up-to-the-minute girl, and Buster Brown, both of whom have made fortunes for their creators, are back in the Republic. And with them are Pa's Imported Son-in-law, Dimples and Just Boy. Five full page comics—three in colors. It gives the Republic a comic section which is, without doubt, the funniest in the world.

It was only after a search of more than two months that the management made the final decision that brings to the Republic the highest paid artists and writers in the country. In addition to the new comic section is a ten-page Feature Section. It contains articles written by the world's greatest thinkers and leaders in war, science, industry, art, finance, literature and fashions, and two pages of features carefully selected for children.

The world's most popular writers are among the contributors to The Republic Fiction Magazine. There are twelve pages each week, handsomely illustrated, four pages printed in colors. The "Teenie Weenies" is the best feature to be secured for the entertainment of small children.

With these new features, the full Associated Press and New York Times service, and its own able corps of special writers, reporters and correspondents, The Republic is giving to its readers "the best in news, features, fun and fiction."

The new features start Sunday, February 20th. Your newsdealer should be notified at once so that he will be able to supply you.

MR. WATTS DEAD.

Thomas Watts, 75 years old, a very fine man and citizen, died of pneumonia Sunday night at his home south of Mexico. The funeral and burial were at Union Church, near Benton City, Tuesday.

"The 'grip comes like a thief in the night; it stays like poor kin; it comes back like it had forgotten something". The Editor of this paper can vouch for the truth of these statements.

Freeze out of ground; not much travel on the roads.

We were saddened Sunday to hear of the death of Mrs. Noble Barnes, south of Mexico, a member of Ris-Sun church. Another good woman has gone to her reward. Several from this neighborhood attended the funeral.

Grover Dowell and John Quinlan are baling hay on the Johnson land. Miss Francis Powell of Duly is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Milford Berry and M. N. Powell and sister this week.

Most everyone has received packages of Speaker Clark's garden seeds from Washington. We all feel thankful too.



THE Texas Wonder cures kidney and bladder troubles, dissolves gravel, cures diabetes, weak and lame backs, rheumatism and all irregularities of the kidneys and bladder in both men and women. It is sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and seldom fails to effect a cure. Send for testimonials from this best other States. Dr. E. W. Hall, 223 Olive Street, St. Louis, Mo. Sold by druggists—Adve.

The infant of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Parsons, south of Benton City, died last week. The burial was at Benton City Saturday. We sympathize with the parents in their loss.

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Druggists

WEST SIDE SQUARE  
Mexico, Mo.

FAVORITE  
TOILET CREAM  
For Hands and Face  
15c Per Bottle

Syrup Hoarhound  
For Coughs and Colds  
25c Perottle  
LEO'S  
Cold Tablets 25c  
SEE OUR LINE

WANTED!

Old Iron, paying 30 to 37 1-2 cents per 100 pounds. Also paying the highest market prices for Metals, Rubber, Rags, Hides and All Kinds of Junk.

Call 281 before selling.

ABE SUDAR

Corner of Olive and Jackson Sts.

Mexico S. F. & P. R. R.

Time Card

No. 1 (Freight)  
Leaves Mexico 7, A. M.  
" Santa Fe, 9:30 A. M.  
" Mexico, 1:30 P. M.  
" Santa Fe, 4:00 P. M.  
No. 2 (Passenger)  
Leaves Santa Fe, 7:15, A. M.  
" Mexico, 9:30, A. M.  
" Santa Fe, 11:00 A. M.  
" Mexico, 4:30 P. M.  
All trips carry passengers.  
W. W. Botts, Sec.

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S. D. STOCKS  
Attorney-at-Law  
Savings Bank Building  
MEXICO MISSOURI.

O O O O O O O O O O  
O . . . . . A. H. T. A. . . . . O  
O Of Rush Hill, Mo., meets on O  
O Monday night on or before O  
O full moon in each month. O  
O Hedgedale School House. O  
O D. L. ROGERS, President. O  
O VAL ERDEL, Secretary. O  
O O O O O O O O O O O

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Reasonable rates and easy terms  
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30 years in the business here.